



Department of
Toxic Substances
Control

*Our mission is
to protect
California's people
and environment
from harmful effects
of toxic substances
by restoring in
contaminated
properties,
identifying and
promoting safer
ingredients in
consumer products,
and ensuring
stewardship through
enforcement,
regulation and
pollution
prevention.*



State of California



California
Environmental
Protection Agency

Fact Sheet, December 2011

Pacific Resource Recovery Services Draft Permit Renewal Available for Public Review



PRRS Facility Entrance on 3150 E. Pico Boulevard

A draft Hazardous Waste Facility Permit renewal for Pacific Resource Recovery Services (PRRS) located at 3150 E. Pico Blvd. in Los Angeles is available for public review and comment. The permit renewal would allow the facility to continue treating, storing, and recycling hazardous waste from a variety of industries for another 10 years.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD AND PUBLIC MEETING/HEARING

Comment Period: December 15, 2011 to February 2, 2012

Public Meeting/Hearing: January 24, 2012 at 6:00 pm

Resurrection Church Parish Hall, 3324 East Opal Street, Los Angeles, CA 90023.

The 50-day public comment period for the draft Permit, and draft California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Negative Declaration begins on **December 15, 2011 and ends February 2, 2012**. Copies of the draft documents can be viewed at the information repositories listed on page 3 of this fact sheet.

Written and emailed comments must be postmarked by **February 2, 2012** and sent to:

Mr. Liang Chiang, P.E. Project Manager
Department of Toxic Substances Control
9211 Oakdale Avenue, Chatsworth, CA 91311
lchiang@dtsc.ca.gov

Before making a final determination on the draft Permit, Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) will review and respond in writing to all public comments. A Response to Comments document will be sent to all those who submitted public comments and to those who request a copy. A copy of the Response to Comments will also be placed in the information repositories.

For more information about the DTSC, please visit our web site at www.dtsc.ca.gov



Facility Location and History

PRRS is located at the southwest corner of East Pico Boulevard and Ezra Street in the community of Boyle Heights, City of Los Angeles. The site has been zoned heavy industrial by the City of Los Angeles, and is allowed by the city's planning department to perform hazardous waste management activities at the premises. PRRS has been a permitted facility since 1993 and must now renew its hazardous waste facility permit from DTSC to continue current operations.

The land owner is the Berg Family Partners, L.P. and the facility owner and operator is PRRS. Robert O. Berg is Chairman and his daughter Sandra Berg is President & CEO. In 1964, the Berg Family purchased Pacific Coast Lacquer (PCL), founded in 1929 in Boyle Heights. In 1969, Berg Lacquer Company (BLC) purchased Ellis Paint Company (EPC). The Berg Family Partners LP purchased the 3150 E. Pico property in 1977 to consolidate these companies under one roof: BLC's paint manufacturing company, EPC, and their solvent distribution company, PCL.

EPC began recycling solvent waste streams generated by PCL automotive body shop customers in 1979. In April 1991 PRRS was incorporated with the purpose of becoming a permitted Treatment, Storage and Disposal Facility (TSDF) and assuming the operational aspect of the recycling business and adding compatible industrial hazardous waste management services. In 1993 PRRS was granted a TSDF permit by DTSC. That permit expired in 2003, however DTSC has granted permission to continue to operate pending the approval of the renewal permit. In 2011 PRRS purchased PCL System sales and marketing divisions from BLC and renamed it PRR System. There is no operating impact because PRRS has been receiving and processing all the System waste since 1991.

PRRS and Berg Lacquer Company, doing business as Ellis Paint Company and PCL, lease the property from the Berg Family Partners LP to operate both the paint & solvent manufacturing business and the permitted hazardous waste facility.

Facility Operations

The PRRS Facility operations represents less than 20% of the facility space and consists of a warehouse, a blending/compacting area, an above ground tank storage area and a solvent recycling area. The remaining 80% of the facility is dedicated to paint manufacturing and solvent blending. For the purposes of the permit we will focus on the 20% of the facility dedicated to PRRS.

PRRS largest division is PRR Systems. The PRR Systems is also a licensed hazardous waste hauler. The PRR Systems delivers clean solvent and picks up waste solvent from its body shop customers and brings the solvent waste back to PRRS for recycling. Other used chemicals received by PRRS including used solvents, waste paints, spent lacquer thinner, paint spray booth filters and paint debris. The used and spent solvents are received by PRRS for solvent recycling and/or fuel blending. Solid waste streams are consolidated and sent to an EPA approved facility for recycling or disposal. These used chemicals are considered to be hazardous wastes due to their toxic or ignitable characteristics.

All warehouse wastes are stored in 55-gallon or less containers or cubic yard boxes and brought to the PRRS Facility by trucks. Recyclable solvent waste is first stored in one of two container storage areas or one of two 10,000-gallon solvent waste storage tanks prior to being recycled in a thin film evaporator system for solvent reclamation. With a maximum design capacity of 420 gallons per hour, this system purifies the solvents through distillation leaving a clean solvent raw material and still bottoms (used paint) which are ideal for supplemental fuel. The process is equipped with a solvent condensation and recovery system for air emissions control. The still bottoms are transferred from the distillation system to two (2) connected 10,000 gallon agitated fuel tanks prior to being shipped offsite by rail-cars to a cement kiln for burning as waste fuels. The rail-car loading area is located within 33 feet from the property line. City of Los Angeles Fire Department approved the rail-car loading operation on August 2009.

In addition, two 5,000-gallon standby storage tanks are used as an alternative to the solvent waste storage tanks or the fuel blending tanks.

The six (6) PRRS permitted tanks are above ground and located in a fully contained above ground storage tank area at the back southwest corner of the property and adjacent to the Union Pacific Railroad yard.

As part of PRRS original permit (1993), the facility was approved to install a second thin film evaporator unit (TFE). In this permit the facility proposes to replace that second TFE with a tube still. A tube still is more efficient recycling high vapor pressure solvents like Acetone. The design capacity for the tube still is 600 gallons per hour. The installation of the tube still will not increase the facility's capacity but process the existing recycled acetone waste stream with a more efficient process.

On average 70% of the solid waste streams like paint booth filters, and rags are compacted and consolidated into 55-gallon containers and cubic yard boxes. The containers are then staged in the Main Warehouse; a 155' x 75' container storage area while awaiting truck shipments to an EPA permitted facility for recycling or disposal. Under the draft permit, the wastes can remain on-site no longer than one year before they must be removed, or recycled on the premises. PRRS will be authorized to store a total of 115,720 gallons of hazardous wastes in two container storage areas.

Draft Hazardous Waste Facility Permit

This facility received its first DTSC permit in November 1993. The permit expired in November 2003 however; the facility is allowed to continue to operate until a permit determination is made on the permit renewal application. The proposed permit renewal will authorize Pacific Resource Recovery Services (PRRS) to continue current hazardous waste operations for another 10 years. Additional information may be found at

www.envirostor.com

California Environmental Quality Act

Under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), DTSC must evaluate whether the proposed actions may have any significant impacts on human health and the environment. As part of this evaluation, DTSC has proposed a Negative Declaration which states that renewal of this facility's permit will not result in any significant impact to human health or the environment.

Compliance History

DTSC inspects Pacific Resource Recovery Services on a regular basis to ensure the facility is in compliance with California laws, regulations and permit conditions. Minor violations have been cited since 2005. Listed below are the inspections and the results of those inspections from 2005:

- **June 30, 2008** : Operating Record Violation
- **December 28, 2006, January 4, 9, 16, 2007**: This 4 day inspection resulted in three (3) violations: (1) Storage of Ignitable Waste without a Letter on file from the LA Fire Department: (2) Installation of a Tube Still rather than

a Thin Film Distillation Unit as approved; and (3) No Written Procedure for Assessing Condition of Tanks.

- **May 10 & 11, 2006**: No Violations
- **April 18 & 19, 2005**: This 2 day inspection resulted in 2 related violations: (1) Failed Secondary Containment – Small cracks in the tank farm floor coating and (2) Inspection Logs did not note small cracks in the secondary containment floor coating.

How You Can Participate

The draft RCRA-equivalent Hazardous Waste Facility Permit renewal and other site-related documents are available for public review at the information repositories listed below. The entire administrative record is available at the DTSC Chatsworth office. The administrative record includes copies of the permit application, the draft CEQA Negative Declaration, this fact sheet and other site-specific documents. You may also attend our upcoming Public Meeting, January 24, 2012 (see page 1 for details).

Information Repositories

Robert Louis Stevenson Branch Library
803 Spence Street, Los Angeles, CA 90023
Hours: Mon., Wed. & Sat. 10:00 am to 5:30 pm
Tues. & Thur. 12:30 pm to 8:00 pm
Fri. 1:30 pm to 5:30 pm
Sun. Closed

Telephone Number: (323) 268-4710

Department of Toxic Substances Control
9211 Oakdale Avenue, Chatsworth, CA 91311
Call for an appointment: (818) 717-6521

DTSC Contacts

Mr. Liang Chiang, P.E. Project Manager
9211 Oakdale Avenue,
Chatsworth, CA 91311
Tel: (818) 717-6680; e-mail: lchiang@dtsc.ca.gov

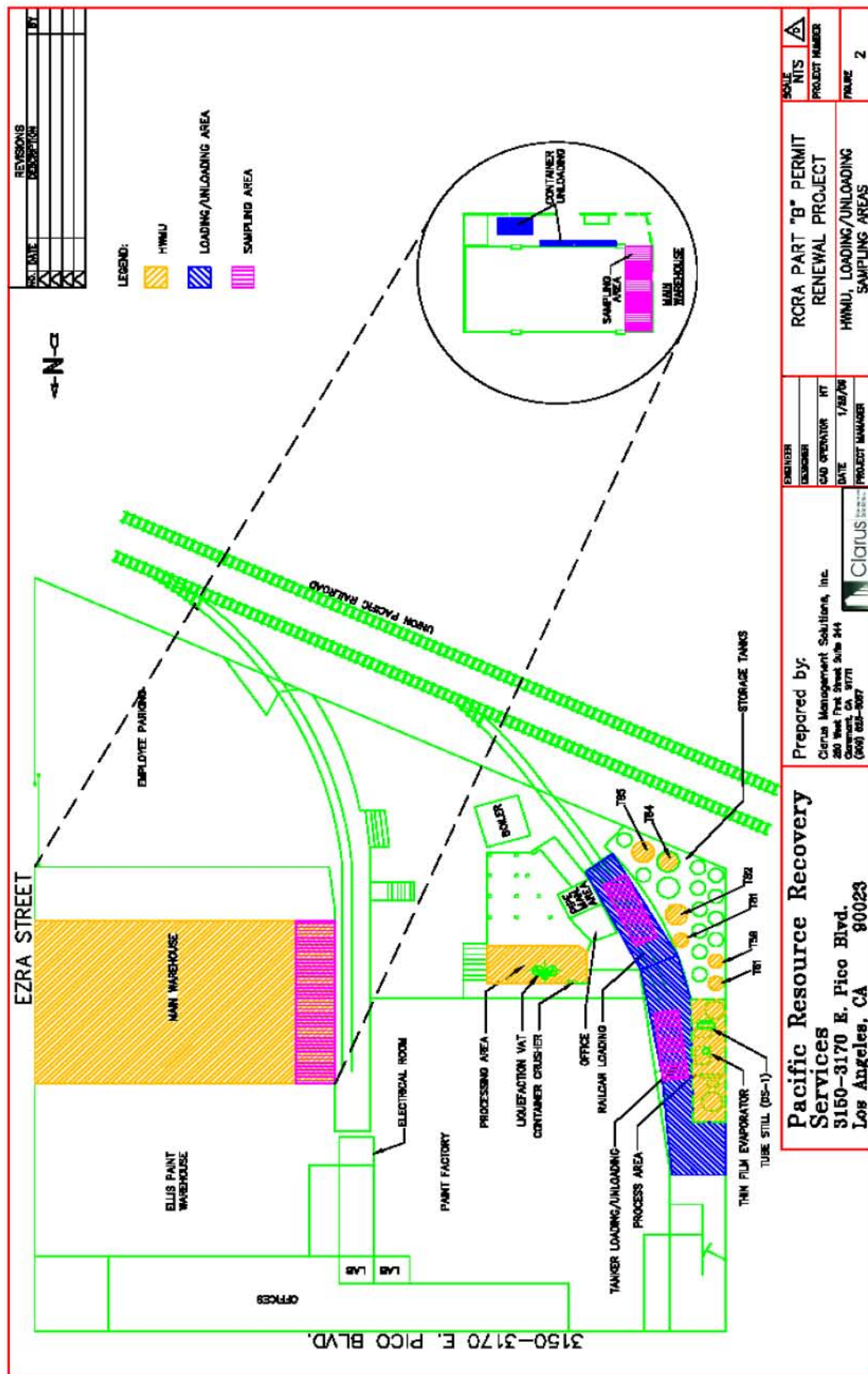
Ms. Zenzi A. Poindexter, Public Participation Spec.
Tel: (714) 484-5477; or (866) 495-5651 (toll free)
e-mail: upoindex@dtsc.ca.gov

For media inquiries, please call:

Ms. Jeanne Garcia, Public Information Officer
(818) 717-6573 jgarcia1@dtsc.ca.gov

Notice to Hearing Impaired Individuals

TDD users can obtain additional information by calling the California State Relay Service at (1-888-877-5378) to reach DTSC Public Participation Specialist, Zenzi Poindexter at (714) 484-5447.



Map of Hazardous Waste Management Units

**Would you like to be added or removed from
the Pacific Resource Recovery Services Facility mailing list?**

If you would like to be added or removed from the mailing list for the Pacific Resource Recovery Services facility, please complete the information below and return to Zenzi Poindexter - 5796 Corporate Avenue Cypress, CA 90630 or you can e-mail your request to be added or removed from the mailing list to upoindex@dtsc.ca.gov.

Please **remove** my name from the mailing list

Please **add** my name to the mailing list

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Note: While this mailing list is solely for DTSC use, the list is considered a public record.